



Brownfields Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund Pilot

State of South Carolina (State-wide expansion of Coalition)

BACKGROUND

For many years, South Carolina's economic strength was based on its textile industry. However, changes in the global textile industry have decimated this industry in the state and resulted in the closure and abandonment of many textile mills. These mills once were the economic backbone of numerous small towns. Many poor communities throughout the state have minority populations above the state average of 32%. These minority communities are primarily in the southern part of the state, which has historically been more agricultural than industrial. All cities in the state have neighborhoods that are composed primarily of minority residents. Environmental justice is an important issue for almost every community in South Carolina.

South Carolina has been working to develop and expand its voluntary cleanup program (VCP) staff. The VCP is working closely with the seven Brownfields Assessment Pilots and one RCRA Brownfields Pilot in the state.

BCRLF OBJECTIVES

The State of South Carolina is the lead agency for an existing BCRLF Pilot formed by a coalition partnership consisting of the Counties of Abbeville, Anderson, Greenville, Kershaw, and Spartanburg; the Towns of Bluffton, Johnston, Lyman, Ware Shoals, and Yemassee; and the Cities of Anderson and Greenville. With this new BCRLF award, the state is expanding this existing coalition to encompass the entire state. This new component of South Carolina's existing BCRLF Pilot coalition will focus on areas of socioeconomic distress and environmental justice needs throughout the state.

The state anticipates that municipalities will benefit the most from the Pilot, but public, private, and nonprofit organizations will be eligible to apply for loans. Priority will be given to proposals for loans that include sustainable

PILOT SNAPSHOT



State of South Carolina

Date of Announcement:
May 2002

Amount: \$900,000

BCRLF Target Area:
Sites throughout the State of South Carolina at which environmental justice is a concern

Contacts:

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Visit the EPA Region 4 Brownfields web site at:
<http://www.epa.gov/Region4/waste/bf/index.htm>

For further information, including specific Pilot contacts, additional Pilot information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at:
www.epa.gov/brownfields

redevelopment plans, potential for jobs creation, and benefits to the community. The Arcade Mill site in the City of Rock Hill will be a focus for the state-wide expansion of the South Carolina BCRLF pilot. The Arcade Mill site includes an abandoned textile mill that has been destroyed by fire, a machine shop, and a chemical storage warehouse. The facility is located in the middle of a residential area and has been assessed by the city.

FUND STRUCTURE AND OPERATIONS

The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control is the cooperative agreement recipient and will serve as the lead agency and site manager. The Carolina Capital Investment Corporation, a nonprofit organization serving as the administrative arm of the South Carolina Jobs Economic Development Authority, will serve as fund manager.

LEVERAGING OTHER RESOURCES

The state's Drinking Water and Clean Water Revolving Loan Funds may be used for cleanups related to water quality protection. Other sources of funding and incentives include the Community Redevelopment Act, Small Business Administration, and federal brownfields tax incentive programs. South Carolina also is considering legislation to provide state financial incentives for brownfields redevelopment.

Use of BCRLF Pilot funds must be in accordance with CERCLA, and all CERCLA restrictions on use of funding also apply to BCRLF funds.